



U.S. Forest Service News Release



Mt. Hood National Forest
16400 Champion Way
Sandy, OR 97055

www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood

January 26, 2005
H-02-05

For Immediate Release

For more information contact: Glen Sachet (503-668-1791)

Get Hooked on the Salmon Life Cycle Board Game

Gresham, OR – Catch us for the release of the new Salmon Life Cycle Board Game. On Monday, January 31st from 9:30 to 10:30 AM, Dick Norris' 4th Grade North Gresham Class will play the Salmon Life Cycle Board Game. The Salmon Life Cycle Partners will act as mentors for teams of students as they play the game, learn about Pacific Salmon, and have fun. The game's primary role is to help educators, aquatic biologists, researchers and others teach youth about watersheds, salmon, human impacts on the environment, and the inter-connective nature of ecosystems. One 4th grade teacher said, "The game does a great job teaching the concept of the life cycle of salmon. It is visually stimulating, and it has the right design for hands on, interactive learning." According to Tracii Hickman, Forest Service Fish Biologist, "this is the only game of its kind in the country that we know of."

Thirteen Partners have collaborated to design, print and distribute 1200 copies of the game:

Mt. Hood National Forest	Mt. Hood Area Chamber of Commerce
Oregon Trout	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Bureau of Land Management	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
US Fish and Wildlife Service	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Army Corp of Engineers	City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services
Portland Public Schools	Trout Unlimited
Association of Northwest Steelheaders	

Each partner has a limited supply of games for public and local school use, and the game is available through any National Forest headquarters office in the Pacific Northwest. Copies of the game will also be distributed to schools in the Lower Columbia River Basin.

The goal of the game is for a Pacific salmon to complete its' life cycle, while navigating a hydroelectric dam, traveling in the Pacific Ocean, and then returning to its home stream to spawn. Up to six players (or teams) assume the identity of one of six species of Pacific salmon. Upon completion, a player will have learned basic life history and ecology of Pacific salmon, learned factors affecting salmon survival, been introduced to concepts about watersheds, and discussed actions they can take regarding their local watershed. The game is targeted to children grades 6-10, but older and younger students, and adults also enjoy and learn from the game.

(more)

North Gresham Grade School
1001 SE 217th St.
Gresham, OR 97080
503-661-6415

Directions to North Gresham Grade School from I-84:
Take the 181st exit, turn south;
At Stark Street turn left;
On 217th turn right, North Gresham Grade is 1 1/2 blocks.